

**MEDIA ADVISORY  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**“I.T. Village” Youth Lab Graduates 6<sup>th</sup> Class**

*More Than 100 Students Have Completed Rigorous Computer Skills Course*

Cincinnati, OH – Today, 19 more students graduated the City of Cincinnati’s “I.T. Village” Youth Lab with the foundational skills needed for employment, education, and communication in tomorrow’s marketplace. This is the sixth class to complete the rigorous, six-week course, and a total of 106 students have graduated from the program since its inception in 2008.

The “I.T. Village” Youth Lab, an initiative of City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr., is designed to help Cincinnati’s youth enhance their technology literacy and IT business skills by learning from professionals with the City’s Enterprise Technology Solutions Department. Not only do students learn how to utilize word processing and database programs, but they also go inside their computers to learn how internal computer hardware works.

“The City of Cincinnati is committed to preparing our youth for success in the new economy, and the ‘I.T. Village’ Youth Lab gives them the skills they’ll need to compete for educational and job opportunities,” City Manager Milton Dohoney, Jr. said.

One student, Ronia Steele, is an instrumental music senior at the School for the Creative Performing Arts. The “I.T. Village” Youth Lab covered a wide range of topics that included her specialty – music.

“They taught me how to use the computer to make instrumental beats to go along with my solos,” said Steele, who believes her new knowledge will help her attend college.

In honor of their hard work and to further prepare them for success, Dell, Inc. and Time Warner Cable donated a computer, printer, web camera and other technology devices to each student. The graduation ceremony was held in Cincinnati City Council Chambers, with a reception afterward.

The “I.T. Village” Youth Lab is a partnership between the City of Cincinnati, Avondale Community Pride Center, Cincinnati-Hamilton County Community Action Agency, Cincinnati Youth Collaborative, Uptown Consortium, Urban League of Greater Cincinnati, and it is sponsored by Dell, Inc. and Time Warner Cable.

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